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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231  
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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING/RECEIPT DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
09/961,091	09/21/2001	Raymond P. Johnston	54404US008

CONFIRMATION NO. 6682

## FORMALITIES LETTER



\*OC000000006958955\*

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel  
3M Innovative Properties Company  
PO Box 33427  
St. Paul, MN 55133-3427

Date Mailed: 10/23/2001

## NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

## FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

A filing date has NOT been accorded to the above-identified application papers for the reason(s) indicated below.

All of the items noted below **and a newly executed oath or declaration covering the items must** be submitted within **TWO MONTHS** of the date of this Notice, unless otherwise indicated, or proceedings on the application will be terminated (37 CFR 1.53(e)).

The filing date will be the date of receipt of all items required below, unless otherwise indicated. Any assertions that the item(s) required below were submitted, or are not necessary for a filing date, must be by way of petition directed to the attention of the Office of Petitions accompanied by the \$130.00 petition fee (37 CFR 1.17(h)). If the petition states that the application is entitled to a filing date, a request for a refund of the petition fee may be included in the petition.

- The application was deposited without drawings. 35 U.S.C. 113 (first sentence) requires a drawing "where necessary for the understanding of the subject matter sought to be patented." *Applicant should reconsider whether the drawings are necessary under 35 U.S.C. 113 (first sentence).*

The application is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below.

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

- An abstract was not provided for this application. An abstract of the technical disclosure is required under 37 CFR 1.72(b).

*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*

Customer Service Center  
Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202



Patent  
Docket No: 54404US008

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Raymond P. JOHNSTON et al.

Group Art Unit:

Serial No.: 09/961,091

Filed: September 21, 2001

Examiner: To Be Assigned

For: MEDICAL ARTICLE HAVING FLUID CONTROL FILM

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on:

November 1, 2001  
Date

Michelle L. Murphy  
Signature  
Michelle L. Murphy

**RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION mailed on October 23, 2001. Part 2 of this form is enclosed.

In compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 113, twelve (12) sheets of formal drawings for the above-identified application are enclosed.

In compliance with 37 CFR 1.72(b), an abstract for the above-identified application is enclosed.

The present application is a continuation of pending prior application 09/235,720, filed January 22, 1999. The drawings and abstract enclosed herewith are identical to the drawings and abstract filed with the prior application. Accordingly, the declaration filed in connection with the prior application, a copy of which was filed with the present application, adequately covers the drawings and abstract enclosed herewith. Another copy of the executed declaration filed with the prior application is enclosed.

No fees are believed to be required at this time. If this is incorrect, please charge any fees to Deposit Account No. 13-3723. One copy of this sheet marked DUPLICATE is also enclosed.

Registration Number 43,643	Telephone Number 651/733-1507
Date 01 November 2001	

Respectfully

By Christopher D. Gram  
Christopher D. Gram

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